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**THE AMERICAN INDIAN HIGHER EDUCATION CONSORTIUM  
AND  
THE NATIONAL AERONAUTIC AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION**

***NASA-AIHEC RESEARCH EXPERIENCE  
FOR TCU FACULTY AND STUDENTS***

Through this opportunity, Tribal College faculty and students will be selected to participate in the NASA Summer Research Experience Project, which will involve an eight to ten week placement at a NASA research center during the Summer 2006.

Research activities may continue throughout the academic year, and all participants will be required to share information about their projects with other TCU and K-12 students from their local communities. Institutional project teams should consist of either: (a) one STEM faculty member and at least one student majoring in a STEM discipline; or (b) two or more students majoring in STEM disciplines.

***Awards will be made to the home institution, and will cover all costs of participation, and provide a stipend to each participant.***

**Getting Started**

Faculty and students interested in participating in the Summer Research Experience program should review the information about the program and the NASA centers on the AIHEC project website: <http://stemrc.aihec.org/NASASRE/default.aspx>. You should contact Al Kuslikis or Carrie Billy at 703.838.0400 to discuss possible NASA Center placements. There are a limited number of available slots. If you are interested in participating, please begin the planning process as soon as possible.

**Application Requirements and Specifications**

- 1. Eligibility.** This program is open to faculty and students at all AIHEC member institutions. Preference is for STEM faculty and students, but non-STEM applicants are also welcome.
- 2. Project Period:** Summer research at a NASA Center will be scheduled for the summer of 2006 and include follow-up activities during the 2006-2007 academic year.
- 3. Preparing the Budget**  
Total requests may be up to \$50,000 to cover allowable costs associated with participation, which include up to \$10,000 for costs directly associated with each participant. Allowable costs include:

- I. **Faculty and Student STIPENDS.** Student stipends may be up to \$4,000. Faculty stipends may be either \$8,000 or \$15,000. Faculty receiving the larger stipend must agree to participate in project-related activities during the school year (and described in the Participation Plan).
  - II. **TRANSPORTATION.** Round trip airfare to and from the NASA Center, and other transportation associated with participation at the NASA Center.
  - III. **HOUSING.** Participant housing
  - IV. **ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.**
4. **Selection Criteria.** Grants will be awarded primarily on the basis of the quality of the participation plan developed collaboratively by the proposing faculty and students. Student academic performance is considered as well,
5. **Submission.** The application form is attached. Applications must include a detailed description of the team's participation plan. Narrative should be no more than 5 pages in length, and should address:
- Research interests of each participant
  - Education and career goals of each participant
  - Expected outcomes of participation
  - Three NASA Center preferences with brief statement of explanation
  - Statement of commitment from Faculty Member (form attached)
  - Budget for 12 months period using the standard NASA budget form available at [http://ec.msfc.nasa.gov/hq/grantnotices/Budget\\_Summary.doc](http://ec.msfc.nasa.gov/hq/grantnotices/Budget_Summary.doc)

**Submission Timeline.** The proposal must be submitted from the Office of the President and received in the AIHEC Central Office no later than Friday, February 11, 2006. The proposals will be reviewed by a committee selected jointly by AIHEC and NASA. Notification of awards will be made no later than March 3, 2006.

**Application Submission.** Submit a single joint application to:

AIHEC

Attn: Carrie L. Billy

121 Oronoco Street

Alexandria, VA 22314

You may also submit your proposal electronically to: [cbilly@aihec.org](mailto:cbilly@aihec.org); or by fax (followed by mailed originals) to: 703.838.0388.

6. **Reporting Requirements.** A final project report will be due within 45 days of the conclusion of the grant award period. The final report should include both a report narrative and digital photographic documentation.
7. **Formal Evaluation.** All grantees will be asked to participate in a formal evaluation conducted by AIHEC.